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General Assembly

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22 November 1999

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100 (b)
Environment and sustainable development: International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daûl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.28

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction: successor arrangements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994 and 53/185 of 15 December 1998, and reiterating Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 on the successor arrangements for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Recalling also the results of the programme forum on the International Decade, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999, and the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction adopted by the forum, together with the strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction",

Recalling further the forward-looking platform for international concerted disaster reduction as developed by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and as expressed in the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[1]

Reiterating that natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, although the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper their sustainable development,

Recognizing the need for the international community to demonstrate the firm political determination required to utilize scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability

[1] A/CONF.172/9, resolution I, annex I.

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to natural disasters and environmental hazards, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63,[2]

Noting the Declaration on Technical Cooperation for the Prevention and Relief of Natural Disasters, adopted by the Rio Group at its summit meeting in Mexico in May 1999, as well as the results of the 1999 Rio de Janeiro Summit between the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union,

Taking into account the consideration of natural disasters contained in the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held in Vienna, from 19 to 30 July 1999,[3]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction[4] and on the recommendations and institutional arrangements for disaster reduction activities of the United Nations system after the conclusion of the Decade;[5]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies worldwide, in particular in developing countries;

3. *Endorses* the proposals put forward in the report of the Secretary-General[5] to ensure the swift establishment of future arrangements for disaster reduction as well as functional continuity for the effective implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction;

4. *Also endorses* the Secretary-General's proposal to establish an inter-agency task force and inter-agency secretariat for disaster reduction under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in a flexible manner, for the initial period of the biennium 2000-2001, and to undertake a review of these arrangements after the first year of operations with a view to submitting proposals on adjustments;[6]

5. *Decides* to maintain the observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on the second Wednesday of October;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund, from voluntary contributions, for disaster reduction to enable the funding of the inter-agency secretariat for disaster reduction, and to transfer all assets of the Trust Fund for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction to the new trust fund for disaster reduction, with effect on 1 January 2000;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the Secretary-General and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations system non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, to implement and further develop a comprehensive strategy to maximize international cooperation in the field of natural disasters, based upon an effective division of labour, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction,

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[2] A/54/497

[3] A/CONF.184/6

[4] A/54/132-E/1999/80 and Add.1

[5] See A/54/136-E/1999/89

[6] See A/54/497, paras. 11-14.

including through capacity-building at all levels and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs as well as the need to strengthen coordination of national emergency response agencies in natural disasters;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit the required inputs from Governments, the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations in order to further optimize and disseminate listings of organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations of civil protection and emergency response at all levels, with updated inventories of available resources, to help in natural disasters;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to further optimize and disseminate through all available channels the necessary information, including handbooks, that guide the international community at large in the effective management of international cooperation in the fields of disaster prevention, early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

10. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to further develop and use the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce the vulnerability to natural disasters, bearing in mind the particular needs of developing countries, and, in this regard, calls upon all countries to strengthen scientific research and training of experts in universities and specialized institutions and to promote the exchange of information;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of early warning as an essential element in the culture of prevention, and encourages renewed efforts at all levels to contribute to natural hazard monitoring and impact prediction, development and transfer of technology, capacity-building for disaster preparedness and the detection of natural hazards, and issuance and communication of early warnings, as well as education and professional training, public information and awareness-raising, to ensure adequate action warnings, such as the Conference on Early-Warning Systems for the Reduction of Natural Disasters, held in Potsdam in 1998;

12. *Reaffirms* the need for strengthening an international framework for the improvement of early warning systems and disaster preparedness by developing an effective international mechanism on early warning, including the transfer of technology related to early warning to developing countries, under the auspices of the United Nations, as an integral part of future strategies and frameworks or any arrangements for natural disaster reduction;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report through the Economic and Social Council to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction, under the agenda item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 99 (g)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997 and 53/181 of 15 December 1998,

Recalling also the adoption of the Agenda for Development[1] and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

Reaffirming the importance of the continuing of the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

Recognizing in this context the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and international levels,

Recognizing the role of regional cooperation in promoting complementarity and in creating synergies and partnerships at the subregional, regional, interregional and global levels in the process of globalization and thereby furthering multilateral economic cooperation,

[1] See resolution 51/240.

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Emphasizing the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy,

Taking note of the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Taking note of the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to further promote international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

2. *Decides* that the theme of the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership will be "Responding to globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century";

3. *Decides*, without changing the biennial nature of the high-level dialogue, to defer the holding of the second two-day high-level dialogue to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue, taking into account past experience and the contributions to be provided by Member States as well as regional institutions and the United Nations system, and commends the continuing use of interactive panel discussions, including with the participation of non-governmental actors, to facilitate the dialogue in accordance with relevant rules and regulations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant organizations and other development agencies, to make initial preparations for the dialogue, while also taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fifth session, under the item "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 102
Training and research

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.30

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/207 of 21 December 1993, 49/125 of 19 December 1994, 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997 and 53/195 of 15 December 1998,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning training institutions and training programmes within the United Nations[1] and the reflections of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the development and possible reforming of the Institute,[2]

Welcoming the efforts for the consolidation of the restructuring process of the Institute and the recent progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that contributions to the General Fund of the Institute have not increased along with the increased participation of the developed countries in the training programmes, and underlining the need to address urgently this discrepancy,

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

[1] A/54/480.
[2] A/54/390, annex.

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1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training, and underlines the need for United Nations training and research institutions to avoid duplication in their work;

2. *Reaffirms also* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States, and the relevance of research activities related to training undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other agencies and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes and, in this context, underlines the need to develop further and expand the scope of these partnerships, particularly at the country level;

5. *Also stresses* the need for continuity in the management of the Institute in order to ensure efficient and effective completion of the process of restructuring and revitalization;

6. *Requests* the Board of Trustees to intensify efforts to attract experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the preparation of the relevant training materials for the programmes and activities of the Institute, and stresses that the Institute's courses should primarily focus on development issues;

7. *Renews* its appeal to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to continue its efforts to address the gap between the decline in contributions to the General Fund of the Institute and the increased participation in its programmes;

9. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider organizing events of the Institute at additional sites, including the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and to reduce costs;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and with United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means systematically to utilize the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the services rendered by the Executive Director in light of challenges emanating from the increased responsibilities encountered by his office;

12. *Renews its call* to the Secretary-General to continue to explore all possible ways and means to provide additional facilities to the Institute for maintaining its offices and for conducting programmes and training courses that are provided at no cost to States and to their representatives accredited to United Nations Offices in New York, Nairobi, Geneva and Vienna;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 101 (b)
Operational activities for development: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.5

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences and for ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the newly emerging global economic system,

Recognizing the fact that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1] 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and 50/119 of 20 December 1995 and 52/205 of 18 December 1997 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

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Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Welcoming the San José Declaration and Plan of Action[2] adopted by the Group of 77 at the South-South Conference on Trade, Investment and Finance, held at San José, Costa Rica, from 13 to 15 January 1997, which outlined concrete modalities on sectoral issues relating to trade, finance and investment and enterprise cooperation,

Taking note of the Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-third annual meeting,[3] held in New York on 24 September 1999, in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation was emphasized,

Recognizing the important contribution that the forthcoming South Summit, to be held in Havana, Cuba, in April 2000, could provide for the strengthening of South-South cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its eleventh session[4] and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at that session;[5]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[6]

3. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation should be viewed not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation, and, in that connection, emphasizes the need to effectively promote, *inter alia*, triangular approaches to facilitate South-South programmes and projects;

4. *Recognizes* the significant role of economic and technical cooperation between developing countries and countries with economies in transition in promoting implementation of South-South programmes and projects;

5. *Welcomes* the significant increase in South-South cooperation among developing countries, both in number and in sectoral coverage, reported by developing countries and the United Nations system;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the recent expansion in the scope of economic cooperation among developing countries, with increasing cooperation among business sectors and enterprises in different countries, including through the Trade Point Programme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the buyers and sellers meetings of the International Trade Centre, and the business forums and Enterprise Forums of the International Labour Organization, and encourages these United Nations organizations to document and disseminate their experiences, lessons and operational methodologies for future application;

7. *Also notes with appreciation* the growing economic cooperation among developing countries with increasing mutual trade and investment, as well as industrial and technical cooperation, including that in the context of small and medium-sized enterprises;

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[2] A/C.2/52/8, annex.

[3] A/54/432, annex I.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/54/39).

[5] Ibid., annex I.

[6] A/54/425.

8. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the second round of negotiations on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries and invites participating countries to join in efforts towards deepening, accelerating and expanding the Global System to enhance its impact;

9. *Recognizes* the progress achieved in a number of developing countries in strengthening human and institutional capacities, *inter alia*, in such areas as education, health, biotechnology, information and communications technology, space technology, financial sector management and microfinance, sharing of which would be beneficial to enhancing growth and development in other developing countries, and urges the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral donors, to continue to assist the capacity-building efforts of developing countries in these areas;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the growing number of developed countries participating in triangular cooperation and encourages the use of such cooperation by other countries and, in this context, requests the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in collaboration with the countries that have been supporting such cooperation, to seek innovative ways to document and disseminate relevant lessons learned based on progress achieved and problems encountered and to identify options for the exploitation of the full potential of such cooperation;

11. *Also notes with appreciation* the contribution made by some countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, and to the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and invites all countries, in particular developed countries, to contribute to the Trust Funds;

12. *Calls upon* all Governments, and all relevant United Nations organizations, and multilateral and regional financial institutions to consider increasing allocations of financial resources for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, and to strengthen funding modalities to promote South-South cooperation, such as triangular cooperation and private sector funding;

13. *Encourages* developing countries, and relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system as well as other partners in the development efforts, in the practice of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, to develop and support innovative mechanisms to foster South-South cooperation in science and technology, with particular emphasis on development and sharing of high technologies as well as appropriate technologies, with a view to their better utilization for growth and development of developing countries;

14. *Stresses*, in this context, that South-South cooperation in science and technology is not a replacement for, but a complement to, traditional North-South cooperation in science and technology, in particular appropriate North-South technology transfer;

15. *Emphasizes* the need for concerted action by developing countries and their development partners, including relevant international organizations, with a view to strengthening cooperation and collaboration among developing countries at the regional, subregional and interregional levels;

16. *Reiterates its invitation* to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, as well as other relevant organizations, taking into account their agreed mandates, work programmes and priorities, to undertake jointly further work on formulating concrete recommendations on the implementation of and follow-up to the Caracas Programme of

Action,[7] adopted at the High-level Conference on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries, held in Caracas in May 1981, as an important mechanism for economic cooperation among developing countries, and the San José Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Group of 77 at the South-South Conference on Trade, Investment and Finance,[2] as well as on the Bali Declaration on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries[8] and the Bali Plan of Action on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries,[9] adopted by the Group of 77 High-level Conference on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 2 to 5 December 1998, within the context of South-South cooperation;

17. *Requests* the United Nations system to take appropriate measures to improve the effective incorporation of technical cooperation among developing countries into its programmes and projects and to intensify efforts towards mainstreaming the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries, including through support to the activities of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and encourages other relevant international institutions to undertake similar measures;

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that the separate identity of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries is maintained and supported to fully implement its mandate and system-wide responsibilities in promoting, monitoring and coordinating technical cooperation among developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the need, with reference to decision 11/3 adopted by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries at its eleventh session[10] and the provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the High-level Committee approved therein, to take appropriate measures to ensure the necessary level of attendance of all member States in the meeting of the High-level Committee, including through discussions of country experiences at the field level, in terms of progress achieved, problems encountered and lessons learned;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", and in that context requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to present to it at that session a report on the state of South-South cooperation and a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[7] A/36/333 and Corr.1, annex.

[8] A/53/739, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex II.

[10] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/54/39), annex I, decision 11/3.

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General Assembly

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26 November 1999

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (d)
Macroeconomic policy questions: science and technology for development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.4

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development,[1] adopted in 1979, its resolution 52/184 of 18 December 1997, and all other relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and their five-year reviews concerning science and technology for development,

Taking note of the outcomes, including the Science Agenda: Framework for Action, of the World Conference on Science, held at Budapest from 26 June to 1 July 1999,

Taking note also that issues related to utilizing science and technology for development were dealt with in the "Partners for Development" summit held at Lyon under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development from 9 to 12 November 1998,

Reaffirming the common vision of science and technology as approved by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its fourth session, which stated that science and technology should be considered the common heritage of mankind and should be shared,

Stressing that the pace of globalization is influenced in large measure by the development of science and technology and that developing countries should be assisted in becoming well equipped with the knowledge of science and technology as well as the practical skills associated with technology management so as to enable them to benefit from

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

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the opportunities offered by globalization and avoid the risk of their marginalization in the process of globalization,

Recognizing the importance of establishing and strengthening partnership and networking among public and private sectors and academic institutions from the South and the North to build and strengthen the technological capabilities and skills needed for developing countries to compete in the international markets,

Recognizing also that information technologies are important requisites for research, planning, development and decision-making in science and technology, and that they have their far-reaching implications for society,

Noting the work being undertaken by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in its work programme for Member States, especially for the developing countries, and its work with some countries with economies in transition, and reaffirming its unique role as a global forum for examining science and technology questions, improving the understanding of science and technology policies and formulating recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the United Nations system in relation to development,

Recognizing the need for adequate resources, including through provision of new and additional resources from all sources, to be devoted to fostering science and technology for development,

Recognizing also the need to address the obstacles faced by developing countries in accessing new technologies, while taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries,

Recognizing further the need for dissemination of research knowledge and sharing of technologies and expertise in the field of biotechnology, in particular in the areas of agriculture, pharmaceuticals and health care, that could benefit mankind,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* the important role that the United Nations should play in the promotion of cooperation in science and technology as one of its priorities, and in the enhancement of support and assistance to developing countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable development, and emphasizes the need to enhance the capability of the relevant United Nations organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to address relevant issues in the field of science and technology;

2. *Recalls* Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/61 of 30 July 1999, in which the Council approved the provisional agenda and substantive theme for the fifth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development;

3. *Recognizes* the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in coordinating the activities of the United Nations system in the area of science and technology for development, emphasizes the importance of the activities that are to be pursued within the framework of the Commission, including a broad spectrum of new global challenges in science and technology, and encourages support to these undertakings;

4. *Recognizes also* the importance for developing countries of having access to science and technology so as to enhance their productivity and competitiveness in the world market, and stressing the need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to

[2] A/54/270 and Corr.1.

and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to the developing countries, on concessional, preferential and favourable terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the special need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries;

5. *Recognizes further* the role of Governments in science and technology for development, in particular in providing appropriate regulatory frameworks and incentives for the development of science and technology;

6. *Stresses* the role of Governments and international development institutions to facilitate the transfer of privately owned technologies on concessional terms, as mutually agreed, to developing countries, especially the least developed countries;

7. *Recognizes* the role of partnership among the public and private sectors, academic research centres and international funding agencies in science and technology for development, in particular in the transfer, creation and development of science and technology capabilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that capacity-building in science and technology in developing countries should remain a priority issue in the United Nations agenda, and urges that international cooperation efforts be intensified and strengthened towards developing countries' endogenous capacity-building in science and technology, including their capacity to utilize scientific and technological developments from abroad as well as to modify and adapt them to suit local conditions;

9. *Recognizes* the role of the public and private sectors, industry and academia in science and technology for development, in particular in the transfer and development of science and technology capabilities;

10. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating the transfer of technology to developing countries, in particular in knowledge-intensive sectors, with the objective of enhancing technological capacities, capabilities and skills in developing countries;

11. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and regional and international bodies to take measures to ensure better access to and participation in scientific and technological areas for women, especially where they are not represented or are under-represented, bearing in mind the important role that they can play in further developing innovation and methodologies for science and technology;

12. *Emphasizes* the role of partnership and networking mechanisms for the integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the world economy, in particular by strengthening national capacity-building, promoting market access across a large number of sectors and industries, disseminating new business and management cultures, especially among small and medium-sized enterprises, and expanding opportunities for them to leverage their own research and development activities;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to fulfil the commitments on the provision of financial resources and transfer of technology contained in chapter 34 of Agenda 21,[3] the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly and the Agenda for Development;

14. *Recognizes* that, while applications of agricultural biotechnology in developing countries, if associated with the capacity to ensure their compatibility with human health and ecosystems, provide viable opportunities for improving productivity and increasing

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

production capacity in the agricultural sector, a large number of developing countries have limited access to such technologies and face a number of impediments in their development of biotechnology;

15. *Recognizes also* the need for studying the impact of new biotechnologies for the human health, welfare and livelihood of the farmers, and poverty in developing countries;

16. *Calls* for safe biotechnology that will, *inter alia*, foster crop reproduction and enhance development of developing countries;

17. *Reaffirms* that the substantive theme for the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development during the inter-sessional period 1999-2000 will be "National capacity-building in biotechnology", with particular attention to agriculture and agro-industry, health and the environment. The theme will include human resource development through basic science education, research and development, as well as their interdisciplinary aspects; the transfer, commercialization and diffusion of technology; increasing public awareness and participation in science policy-making; and bioethics, biosafety and legal and regulatory matters affecting these issues to ensure equal treatment;

18. *Stresses* the necessity of promoting linkages and partnership among public and private sectors and centres of excellence and networks in developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition with the objective of strengthening national research capability and capacity in biotechnology in developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the need to establish science and technology as a cross-cutting theme within the work of the United Nations, particularly through effective and better coordination, including of international cooperation in technology assessment, monitoring and forecasting, information and communication technologies, partnership and networking for innovative and new technologies, biotechnology and providing an environment conducive to the development of new environmentally sound technologies, and calls upon United Nations organizations, funds and programmes to work in a coordinated manner to develop a catalogue of proven technologies to enable developing countries to make effective choices in state-of-the-art technologies;

20. *Encourages* the United Nations system to ensure, where appropriate in its operational activities, the provision for the transfer of appropriate technical know-how and technological skills to developing countries;

21. *Reaffirms* the need for adequate financial resources on a continuous and assured basis to foster science and technology for development, in particular to promote endogenous capacity-building in developing countries in accordance with their priorities;

22. *Emphasizes* the need to reduce regulatory limitations on the transfer of technology, particularly to developing countries, and stresses the importance of identifying barriers and unjustifiable restrictions to the transfer of technologies with a view to addressing such constraints while creating specific incentives, fiscal and otherwise for the transfer of new and innovative technologies;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of cooperation among developing countries in the field of science and technology, building on their complementarities, and the need to further advance such cooperation through the establishment and/or the strengthening of national technology and information centres in developing countries and their networking on regional, subregional, interregional and global levels to promote technology research, training and dissemination as well as joint projects in developing countries, urges the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and programmes to provide continued and enhanced

support through technical assistance and financing for such efforts, calls for further cooperation between centres of excellence, universities and research institutions, and urges the international community to support such initiatives, where appropriate, through financial and technical assistance;

24. *Recognizes also* the importance of maintaining mutually beneficial scientific and technological cooperation between and among developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

25. *Invites* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to provide assistance and promote cooperation in the area of partnership and networking, biotechnology, information and communication technologies, including in the design and implementation of national strategies on such technologies or mechanisms;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to it for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, without prejudice to the periodicity of the item, proposals for strengthening the coordination of mechanisms on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in order to ensure coordination of the various efforts and activities in the area of new and innovative technologies, in particular information and communication technologies, and their applications, such as in electronic commerce, with the objective of promoting complementarity of activities within the United Nations system;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.49

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
26 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 101 (b)
Operational activities for development: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.6

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 37/248 of 21 December 1982 and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

Commending States members of the Community for demonstrating continued commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation among themselves towards regional integration,

Noting the signing of Community protocols on wildlife conservation and law enforcement, and on health, and the establishment of the Association of Southern African Development Community National Chambers of Commerce, as well as a declaration on productivity as further steps towards enhancing regional cooperation,

Recognizing the strengthening of democratic governance and other positive developments, including the consolidation of the peace, the enhancement of democracy and the respect for the rule of law in the region, through the creation of institutions to further regional integration, such as the Parliamentary Forum, the Electoral Forum and the Lawyers Association of the Southern African Development Community,

Reaffirming that the successful implementation of the development programmes of the Community can be achieved only if the Community has adequate resources at its disposal,

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Noting that the effects of armed conflicts, resulting in loss of life and destruction of economic and social infrastructures in southern Africa, demand the continuation and strengthening of rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to regenerate the economies of the countries of the region,

Welcoming the Community's efforts to make southern Africa a landmine-free zone,

Noting with grave concern that adverse weather conditions have created a regional cereal deficit in 1999-2000, with a risk of increased poverty, in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution that some organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and the international community have made to complementing national and subregional efforts to advance the process of democratization, rehabilitation and development in southern Africa,

Reiterating that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola, under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi, to comply with its obligations under the "Acordos de Paz",[1] the Lusaka Protocol[2] and relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Expressing its grave concern at the serious deterioration of an already dire humanitarian situation in Angola caused by the current situation in the country, which is also hampering efforts towards economic rehabilitation and national reconstruction as well as regional development projects,

Expressing satisfaction over the initiatives to bring peace to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, launched by the Community under the leadership of President F. J. T. Chiluba of Zambia, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and other entities,

Welcoming with satisfaction the signing of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement[3] by all parties involved in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a step forward towards a durable peace in that country,

Noting with concern the region's high prevalence rates of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), which have far-reaching social and economic consequences,

Reaffirming the recognition of the important role that women play in the development of the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Southern African Development Community;

3. *Appeals* to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue providing, where appropriate, financial, technical and material assistance to the Community in order to enable it to implement fully its Programme of Action and to meet the reconstruction and rehabilitation needs of the region and to further advance the process of regional economic integration;

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[1] *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-sixth Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1991*, document S/22609.

[2] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1994*, document S/1994/1441.

[3] S/1999/815, annex.

[4] A/54/273.

4. *Calls upon* the States Members of the United Nations and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of doing so;

5. *Appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist and support the Community in its efforts against landmines; and calls upon the States members of the Community to continue to strengthen their efforts in this regard;

6. *Appeals* to the United Nations, its related organs and the international community to assist the Community, with the appropriate resources, in implementing the programmes and decisions adopted by various United Nations world conferences, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of the Southern African Development Community Women in Business Network, aimed at empowering women through, *inter alia*, facilitating and enhancing their access to credit and training in business and technical skills;

7. *Appeals* to the international community to support the measures being taken by the Community in addressing human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), including proposals for key future actions for further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[5]

8. *Appeals* to the international community as well as to the United Nations system to continue to extend much-needed assistance to those countries of the Community that are engaged in the process of national reconstruction so as to enable them to consolidate democracy and enhance the implementation of their national development programmes;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions on Angola pertaining to sanctions imposed on the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola, which, together with other efforts, would help to bring peace and facilitate the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the Angolan economy;

10. *Urges* the international community to take appropriate action, especially by providing humanitarian assistance, in order to prevent the suffering of the Angolan people, in particular children, women and the elderly, and urges the Angolan authorities to continue to facilitate the assistance and delivery of such assistance, and also urges all other relevant parties to the conflict to do their utmost in this regard;

11. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the United Nations, to continue to contribute to the promotion of peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to assist in the rehabilitation and economic reconstruction of that country;

12. *Urges* all parties to the Lusaka Agreement to work towards its full implementation and to cooperate in this regard with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

13. *Urges* the international community to continue to assist those countries receiving refugees in coping with the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

14. *Appeals* to the United Nations and the international community to assist in the strengthening of the region's capacity for sustainable water resource management and to respond generously with respect to the drought situation in southern Africa, by supporting the region in its drought preparedness and management strategies;

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[5] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

15. *Calls upon* the international community to consider supporting the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Community, with the active participation of the private sector, while recognizing the responsibilities and the ongoing efforts of the countries concerned to create the necessary environment, including the appropriate legal and economic framework for such activities;

16. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Community to address the consequences, new challenges and opportunities presented to the economies of the region arising from the process of globalization and liberalization;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.50

General Assembly

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29 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100 (f)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.23

Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997 and 53/189 of 15 December 1998,

Recognizing that small island developing States face special challenges and vulnerabilities of both an environmental and economic nature in their efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Recalling the Declaration[1] and review document[1] adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly,

Noting the significant efforts being made at the national and regional levels and the need for them to be supplemented by effective financial support from the international community,

Bearing in mind the over three hundred projects that were presented for financing within the context of implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[2] at the meeting of

[1] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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representatives of donors of small island developing States held from 24 to 26 February 1999,

1. *Reiterates* the significance of the effective implementation of the Declaration and review document adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the Declaration and review document adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly to the various organs of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, taking into account the areas identified in the review document for priority action, and urges them to take the action necessary for further implementation and effective follow-up;

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the regional commissions and organizations and other intergovernmental organizations to support the efforts of the small island developing States, taking into account those areas identified in the review document for priority action, and urges them to take the action necessary for the further implementation and effective follow-up of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

4. *Calls upon* all stakeholders, in particular local communities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to take the action necessary for the further implementation and effective follow-up of the Barbados Programme of Action;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for the provision of resources for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action;

6. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, preferably before the end of the year 2000, the work on the development of a vulnerability index, in particular for the small island developing States, which would assist in defining the vulnerability of those States and in identifying the challenges to their sustainable development, for consideration by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly at the appropriate time;

7. *Welcomes* the acknowledgement by the Committee on Development Policy that the concept of vulnerability should be included explicitly in the identification criteria for the least developed countries and notes the ongoing discussions on the new criteria proposed by the Committee;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to give substantive consideration in its work to the Declaration and review document adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, including in its preparations for the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

9. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to consider, as appropriate, in its work programme matters relating to the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, bearing in mind the report of the General Assembly on its twenty-second special session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Environmental and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.51

General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100
Environment and sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.7

Conservation and sustainable development of Central African forest ecosystems

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, General Assembly resolution 47/190 of 22 December 1992, on the report of the Conference, and resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992, establishing the institutional arrangements for the follow-up to the Conference,

Recalling also its resolution 53/188 of 15 December 1998 on implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly,

Recalling further the work of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests within the context of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Noting with appreciation the Summit of Central African Heads of State on the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests, held at Yaoundé,

Mindful of the need for the conservation and sustainable management of the forest ecosystems of Central Africa, which constitute an important natural asset for present and future generations,

Convinced that the sustainable management of forest resources can contribute significantly to the economic, social and cultural development of the States that border on forests,

Convinced also of the important role of subregional and international cooperation in the management of forest ecosystems and of combating desertification in keeping with the international commitments entered into by the international community,

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Considering that a synergy of international and national efforts is essential in order to achieve sustainable development,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of the forests of the Central African subregion, the natural characteristics of which play an essential role in the equilibrium of the biosphere of the entire planet;

2. *Welcomes* the Declaration adopted by the Summit of the Central African Heads of State on the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests, held at Yaoundé from 12 to 17 March 1999, encourages the countries of Central Africa to implement to the fullest extent possible the undertakings of the Declaration, and recognizes the efforts made by these countries in this respect, in particular, with regard to policy coherence and coordination with a view to the sustainable management and conservation of the forest ecosystems of the Central African subregion;

3. *Invites* the international community to support the countries of Central Africa in these efforts, including through the provision of financial and technical assistance on a regional basis;

4. *Encourages* the international community, including the Global Environment Facility and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, when considering ways and means of achieving the conservation and sustainable management of all types of forests, to take into account, *inter alia*, the forests of the Central African subregion;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, within the context of the reporting emanating from the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and taking into account other reporting requests under the agenda item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.52

General Assembly

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29 November 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 99 (c)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: women in development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.21

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/195 of 18 December 1997 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the relevant resolutions and the agreed conclusions, including those on Women in the Economy,[1] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling the ministerial communiqué of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women",[3]

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3), chap. III, para. 23.

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Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to the economy and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the rapid development of information technology and other new technologies presents both opportunities and challenges to women, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing also that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing further in this context the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, *inter alia*, justice, equity, popular participation and political freedom for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Concerned that the continued discrimination against women, the denial or lack of equal rights and access to education, training and credit facilities, and the lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full and equal contribution to and equal opportunity to benefit from development,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Aware that, although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have made women, especially in developing countries, and in particular the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility,

Recognizing that some effects of market liberalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of women in the agricultural sector, including through the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men, and emphasizing that small-scale women farmers need special support and empowerment so as to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Recognizing the continued need to review the impact of structural adjustment programmes in order to reduce any adverse impact on women, especially in terms of cutbacks in social services, education and health and the removal of subsidies on food and fuel,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to finance by women,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in developing countries and that data collection on its important contribution should be improved,

Expressing its concern about the under-representation of women in economic decision-making and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policy formulation, implementation and evaluation,

Recognizing that the increase in women's participation in paid employment contributes to the empowerment of women and gender equality by promoting the status, independence, self-esteem and decision-making power of women, but also that this alone may be insufficient, since, in general, the burden of household work and primary responsibility of women for childcare can give rise to an onerous double working day for most women,

Stressing the need for a family-friendly work environment, including appropriate working hours, affordable childcare and flexible working hours, and emphasizing the principle of shared responsibility between women and men for the achievement of gender equality,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the 1999 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Globalization, Gender and Work;[4]

2. *Calls* for the accelerated and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the relevant provisions contained in the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits and, in this regard, expresses the hope that the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", which will be held from 5 to 9 June 2000, can take tangible and significant steps to enhance the effective participation of women in development;

3. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life is necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

4. *Urges* Governments to develop and promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

5. *Also stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

6. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their full and equal access to education, training, employment, technology and economic and financial resources, including credit, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

7. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance including microcredit in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment and, in this regard, notes the importance of sound national financial systems and encourages the

[4] A/54/227.

strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

8. *Requests* Governments to ensure that the priorities of women are included in, and that women fully participate in, decisions on public investment programmes for economic infrastructure, technology, water supply and sanitation, electrification and energy conservation, transport and road construction, and to promote the greater involvement of women beneficiaries at the project planning and implementation stages to ensure their access to jobs and contracts;

9. *Stresses* the need for assistance to enable women in developing countries, particularly grass-roots women's groups, to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

10. *Further stresses* the need to ensure that women and girls have full and equal access to all levels of education, vocational training and retraining programmes in order to improve their employment opportunities;

11. *Urges* States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through the right of inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies, access to markets and information;

12. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making and policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities, skills and potentials can be adequately reflected in national policy;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, *inter alia*, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

14. *Stresses* the need for Governments and employers, as appropriate, to implement policies aimed at ensuring stability and security of work and to put in place social protection measures that cover temporary, part-time, informal sector and home workers, a majority of whom are women;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to make efforts to mitigate the effects of excess volatility and economic disruption, which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

16. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts of Governments to ensure, *inter alia*, increased access of women to health care, capital, education, training and technology, and full and equal participation in all decision-making;

17. *Calls upon* developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries, so as to assist the developing countries in implementing strategies to eradicate poverty and promote development and gender equality;

18. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[5]

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session; as in the past, this survey should focus on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

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[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Add.1), chap. IV.A, para. 4.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.53

General Assembly

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29 November 1999

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 99 (e)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: international migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.11

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo,[1] in particular chapter X on international migration, and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, in particular chapter II.C on international migration, as well as the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[2] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and in the Platform for Action[4] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995 and 52/189 of 18 December 1997 on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

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[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Reaffirming the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the international instruments regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[7] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[8]

Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as by the relevant United Nations conferences of the 1990s, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

Noting the need for the relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations to enhance their technical support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

Recognizing the diversity of views expressed by the respondents to the survey regarding the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration,[9] its scope, form and agenda, which represented 39 per cent of the full United Nations membership, and that forty-five respondents were in favour of convening a conference, five were partially in favour and twenty-six were against,

Noting in particular the need for more migration data, a coherent theory to explain international migration and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,

Noting the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee on Development Policy, the International Labour Organization and other relevant key organizations,

Noting with appreciation the numerous meetings and conferences convened relating to migration and development,[10]

Noting also the establishment of the International Migration Policy Programme in May 1998 by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International

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[5] Resolution 217 A (III).

[6] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[7] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[8] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[9] See A/54/207.

[10] Including the International Symposium: Towards Regional Cooperation in Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration; the Commonwealth of Independent States Regional Conference, held at Geneva on 30 and 31 May 1996; the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America; and the migration capacity-building and regional cooperation meetings organized by the International Migration Policy Programme with senior government officials from Eastern and Central Europe at Budapest in November 1998, senior government officials from southern Africa at Pretoria in April 1999 and at Bangkok in November 1999 with Governments from Asia and the Pacific, as well as the Mediterranean Conference on Population, Migration and Development, held at Palma de Mallorca from 15 to 17 October 1998; and the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, held at The Hague, the Netherlands, from 29 June to 3 July 1998.

Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund, to be implemented in partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments in different regions to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus to foster cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

Aware that, among other factors, the process of globalization and liberalization, including the widening economic and social gap between and among many countries and the marginalization of some countries in the global economy, have contributed to large flows of peoples between and among countries and to the intensification of the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families are respected and protected, and that it is desirable to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

Recognizing the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development and of the need for comprehensive, coherent and effective policies on international migration based on the spirit of genuine partnership and common understanding,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;[11]

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

3. *Encourages*, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

5. *Also calls upon* the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, to which end efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, whenever feasible, to solicit more views from Member States, particularly those that have not responded to the survey requested in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 52/189, as well as from the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, on the report of the Secretary-General

[11] A/54/207. The report includes information on the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues.

submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,[12] bearing in mind various regional processes, and to recommend ways and means to address the problem related to migration and development;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to initiate appropriate action in consultation with regional commissions in order to ensure the carrying out of interregional activities, with the contribution of the relevant actors on issues relating to international migration and development, taking into account, *inter alia*, the report of the Secretary-General,[11] and encourages the United Nations bodies and other appropriate international organizations to provide support to such activities;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report that will, *inter alia*, summarize the lessons learned, as well as best practices on migration management and policies, from the various activities relating to international migration and development that have been carried out at the regional and interregional levels, and recommend for the consideration of the Assembly policy actions that could be pursued at the international level, taking into account, *inter alia*, the following:

(a) The report of the Committee for Development Policy[13] on its examination of the issue of migration and development;

(b) The work of the relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations and other international organizations in the field of international migration and development;

(c) The possible mechanisms within the United Nations system to examine international migration and development in a comprehensive and integrated manner;

(d) The need to provide, in consultation with relevant United Nations bodies, an analysis of data relating to migration within the various regions and between regions;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues".

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[12] A/52/314

[13] See A/54/207, paras. 42-44

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100 (d)
Environment and sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.18

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/115 of 20 December 1995, 51/184 of 16 December 1996 and 52/199 of 18 December 1997 and other relevant resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Noting with satisfaction that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1]

Noting that to date the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] has so far attracted sixteen ratifications, and encouraging necessary action to facilitate the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol at the earliest possible date,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which culminated in the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,[3]

Noting that the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was convened at Bonn, Germany, from 25 October to 5 November 1999,

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[1] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.
[2] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3.
[3] FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1, decision 1/CP.4.

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Taking note of decision 1/CP.5 of the Conference of the Parties at the fifth session, and stressing the importance of a successful outcome to the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, in particular in reaching decisions on the early and full implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, and welcoming in that decision the agreement to an intensified process of negotiations leading to the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the generous offer of the Government of the Netherlands to host the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, and urging the Parties to undertake thorough preparations to advance progress at that session,

Taking note of the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session to approve the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations subject to review not later than 31 December 2001, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be desirable by both parties,

Taking note also of the decision of the Conference of the Parties whereby the General Assembly is invited to decide at its fifty-fourth session on the issue of meeting the Convention's conference-servicing expenses from its regular budget, taking into account the views expressed by Member States,

Noting the oral report of the Secretary-General and the advice on the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations,

Noting also that by paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 50/115 the Secretary-General was requested to make the necessary arrangements to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998-1999 those sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies that the Conference may need to convene in that period,

1. *Encourages* Member States that have not ratified or acceded to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] to do so with a view to bringing it into force;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to continue to take effective steps to implement their commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

3. *Encourages* all countries to work constructively towards advancing the work necessary for the timely entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and its implementation;

4. *Approves* the continuation of the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations, as advised by the Secretary-General and approved by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session;

5. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, to further examine appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the three conventions;

6. *Encourages* the secretariats of various environmental and environment-related conventions and other international organizations, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties of the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a

view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional and national levels;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the functioning of this institutional linkage not later than 31 December 2001, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

8. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2000-2001 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for that biennium, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100(e)
Environment and sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daul Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.15

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/190 of 15 December 1998 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions relating to the Convention,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1]

Reaffirming that the conservation of biological diversity is a common concern of humankind,

Recalling that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Recalling Agenda 21,[2] particularly its chapter 15 on the conservation of biological diversity and related chapters,

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity as submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly,[3]

[1] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] A/54/428, annex.

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Deeply concerned about the continued loss of the world's biological diversity and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reaffirming the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Recognizing the contribution of indigenous and local communities, and women within those communities, to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

Recalling the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting,[4] relating to intellectual property rights, traditional knowledge and the relationship of the Convention with other international agreements,

Noting the continuing dialogue taking place in the Committee on Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization on the provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights,[5]

Encouraged by the work carried out to date under the Convention, and satisfied that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention,

Noting with appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Kenya to host the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will take place in Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000,

Recalling its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the result of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

1. *Notes* the results of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held at Bratislava from 4 to 16 May 1998;

2. *Recognizes* the importance of the inter-sessional efforts of the Conference of the Parties since its fourth meeting to improve the effectiveness of the operations of the Convention;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the decision of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the adoption of the programmes of work and the thematic approach to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future, including its in-depth consideration of ecosystems;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, in cooperation with the Conference of the Parties, to use science-based analysis to study and monitor closely the evolution of new technologies to prevent possible adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, which might have an impact on farmers and local communities;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of a protocol on biosafety at the resumed session of the extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held at Montreal from 24 to 28 January 2000, and calls upon States participating in the negotiations on a protocol on biosafety to work constructively towards bringing this process to a satisfactory conclusion;

[4] See UNEP/CBD/COP/4-27, annex.

[5] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

6. *Welcomes* decision IV/15, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting,[4] in which the Conference of the Parties stressed the need to ensure consistency in implementing the Convention and World Trade Organization agreements, including the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, with a view to promoting increased mutual supportiveness and integration of biological diversity concerns and the protection of intellectual property rights;

7. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of decision IV/15, in which the Conference of the Parties emphasized that further work is required to help develop a common appreciation of the relationship between intellectual property rights and the relevant provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular on issues relating to technology transfer and conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources, including the protection of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

8. *Notes* the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, including its recommendation IV/5 on the consequences of the use of the new technology for the control of plant gene expression for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation of the Convention at all levels, including through the preparation and implementation of national strategies, plans and programmes, taking into account the need for financial resources to support the implementation activities, in particular those of developing countries, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties;

10. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

11. *Notes* the meeting of the Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing, established in accordance with decision IV/8 of the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of national action to conserve biological diversity in many habitats, including forests, wetlands and coastal areas, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular article 8, and the need to mobilize national and international support for such national actions;

13. *Welcomes* the offer of Spain to host at Seville in March 2000 the first meeting of the ad hoc open-ended inter-sessional working group on article 8 (j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity regarding the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and encourages Governments to include representatives of indigenous and local communities on their delegations to that meeting;

14. *Recognizes* the utility of information exchange, and encourages the development of biodiversity information networks at the national, regional and international levels by way of the clearing-house mechanism;

15. *Encourages* the Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, to further examine appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages between the three conventions;

16. *Encourages* the secretariats of various environmental and environment-related conventions and other international organizations, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional and national levels;

17. *Invites* all funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention in the implementation of the programme of work;

18. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to settle urgently any arrears and to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

19. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: trade and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.37

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991, 48/169 of 21 December 1993, 50/97 of 20 December 1995 and 52/183 of 18 December 1997 and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[1] as well as the relevant parts of the Agenda for Development,[2]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from the world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing also that sixteen of the landlocked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Noting the importance of continuing to strengthen the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of landlocked developing countries,

[1] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.
[2] Resolution 51/240, annex.

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Emphasizing the importance of further strengthening effective and close cooperation and collaboration between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours, at regional, subregional and bilateral levels, including through cooperative arrangements in developing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries, and noting the important role of the activities of the regional commissions in this regard,

Welcoming the holding of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, in New York from 24 to 26 August 1999,

Expressing its appreciation to donor partners for participating in the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts and for the generous contribution that facilitated the participation of landlocked developing countries,

1. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the agreed conclusions and recommendations for future action adopted by the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;[4]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit States by all means of transport, in accordance with international law;

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

5. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours to implement measures to further strengthen their cooperative and collaborative efforts to deal with transit transport issues, including bilateral and, as appropriate, subregional cooperation, *inter alia*, by improving the physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects of transit transport systems, strengthening and concluding, where appropriate, bilateral and subregional agreements to govern transit transport operations, developing joint ventures in the area of transit transport and strengthening institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport, and, in this respect, notes that South-South cooperation also plays an important role in this field;

6. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries agreed upon in the resolutions and declarations adopted by the General Assembly and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences relevant to landlocked developing countries, the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[1] and to take fully into account the agreed recommendations and conclusions of the fourth Meeting of Governmental Experts from

[3] A/54/529.

[4] Ibid., sect. II.

Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts being made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with donor countries and institutions, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant subregional institutions, to organize specific consultative groups, as appropriate, when requested by the landlocked and transit developing countries concerned, to identify priority areas for action at the national and subregional levels and draw up action programmes;

8. *Invites* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, and to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and in this regard also to consider, *inter alia*, improving the availability and optimal use of the different transport modes and intermodal efficiency along transport corridors;

9. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor assistance should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

10. *Notes* the important role that the simplification, harmonization and standardization of transit procedures and documentation as well as application of information technologies have played in enhancing the efficiency of transit systems, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to continue its assistance to landlocked and transit developing countries in these areas, in accordance with their mandates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to convene in 2001, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 2000-2001, another meeting of governmental experts from landlocked and transit developing countries and representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to review progress in the development of transit transport systems, including sectoral aspects and transit transportation costs, with a view to exploring the possibility of formulating necessary action-oriented measures;

12. *Requests* the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions to consider a proposal made at the fourth Meeting to convene a ministerial meeting on transit transport issues to give appropriate emphasis to the problems of landlocked and transit developing countries in 2003;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to seek voluntary contributions to ensure the participation of representatives of landlocked and transit developing countries at the meeting referred to in paragraph 11 above;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to formulating international policies and measures dealing with the special problems of landlocked developing countries, including through technical

cooperation programmes, and urges the Conference, *inter alia*, to keep under constant review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, monitor the implementation of agreed measures, including by means of a case study as necessary, promote regional and subregional cooperation, build up consensus on cooperative arrangements, mobilize international support measures, collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of landlocked developing countries;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to take appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution, and to provide, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/183, the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries with adequate resources so as to allow it to implement effectively its mandate to continue to support landlocked developing countries;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, together with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.57

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 99 (d)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: human resources development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.10

Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/191 of 21 December 1990, 46/163 of 17 December 1991, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 50/105 of 20 December 1995 and 52/196 of 18 December 1997, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[1]

Recognizing that the well-being of people is the overall goal of sustainable development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and that there is a need for continued support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also that there is a need for a supportive and favourable national and international economic environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences,

Recognizing that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and the girl child,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

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Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and at the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

Stressing that the developing countries should be assisted so that they can be well equipped with the knowledge of information technology that would enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Emphasizing the continued need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, *inter alia*, of participating more effectively in the world economic system and of benefiting from globalization;

3. *Urges* increased investments in all aspects of human development, such as education and training, health and nutrition, to achieve universal coverage and the well-being of all;

4. *Urges also* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, provision of basic social services, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of youth, the needs of vulnerable groups of society, political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

6. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

7. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations;

8. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being and, in this regard, encourages the allocation of more resources for this purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation;

9. *Encourages* the adoption of policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and in technology in general, including by:

[2] A/54/408.

(a) Encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to donate voluntarily to designated centres in developing countries literary materials, information and communication technology equipment and training in order to facilitate improved access, as well as to make funds available for these purposes;

(b) Taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communication technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients or interested developing countries;

(c) Promoting transparent, efficient regulatory regimes and other policies that encourage investment;

(d) Supporting targeted investments in infrastructure that would establish the physical foundation for the operation of Internet services and pave the way for commercial and development applications;

(e) Developing training in information technologies for users such as non-governmental organizations, universities and business service organizations, as well as key governmental agencies;

10. *Calls upon* developing countries, with the support of the international community, to establish information, communication and electronic community centres, where appropriate and in cooperation with the private sector, in order to provide connectivity and access to information and knowledge;

11. *Calls upon* the developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities of developing countries for human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session an assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the contribution made by the United Nations system to advance human resources development in developing countries through its operational activities, and to make recommendations to enhance further its impact;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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Agenda item 100 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.14

Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, held in New York from 23 to 28 June 1997,

Reaffirming that Agenda 21[1] is the fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development and that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2] adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, will enhance the full implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Recognizing that the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 includes a statement of commitment to Agenda 21 and the goals of sustainable development, an assessment of progress made since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in all main areas of Agenda 21 and other outcomes of the Conference, and

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I, *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

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recommendations on the future methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the programme of work of the Commission for the period 1998-2002,

Recognizing also that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are needed in the pursuit of sustainable development and that the gap between developed and developing countries points to the continuing need for a dynamic and enabling national and international economic environment that is supportive of international cooperation, in particular in the fields of finance, transfer of technology, debt and trade, if the momentum for global progress towards sustainable development is to be maintained and increased,

Noting with concern that, during the assessment and review of progress made at its nineteenth special session, the General Assembly concluded that although some progress had been made, especially at the local level, the overall trends with respect to the global environment had not improved, and emphasizing that the implementation of Agenda 21 in a comprehensive manner remains vitally important and is now more urgent than ever,

Noting that the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 is to be carried out by the General Assembly in 2002,

Noting also the need for early substantive preparations for the ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in order to attain meaningful results,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/188 of 15 December 1998 and decision 7/9 of the Commission on Sustainable Development[3] on preparations for the review of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,

1. *Stresses* the need to accelerate the full implementation of Agenda 21[1] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;[2]

2. *Recognizes* that the Commission on Sustainable Development, within its mandate as specified in General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 and in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, will continue to provide the central forum for reviewing progress and for urging further implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and other commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or as a result of it, for conducting a high-level policy debate aimed at consensus-building on sustainable development and for catalysing action and long-term commitment on sustainable development at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* the Commission on Sustainable Development to continue to undertake these tasks in complementing and providing interlinkages to the work of other United Nations organs, organizations and bodies active in the field of sustainable development, to play its role in assessing the opportunities and challenges of globalization as they relate to sustainable development, and to perform its functions in coordination with other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and with related organizations and institutions, including making recommendations, within its mandate, to the Council, bearing in mind the interrelated outcomes of recent United Nations conferences;

4. *Emphasizes* that the achievement of more substantive results by the next review of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 2002 will require concerted efforts at all levels, including by Governments, calls upon all countries to fulfil their commitments to Agenda 21

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29), chap. I.

and, in this context, calls upon developed countries to fulfil the commitments that they have undertaken with respect to financial resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technology;

5. *Reaffirms* in this context the necessity of the provision of adequate and predictable financial resources, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, capacity-building and technical assistance to developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21 and for the achievement of the long-term goals of sustainable development, and calls for the preparations for the ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, without prejudice to other priority areas that may be identified during the preparatory process, to address the challenges and constraints in the implementation at all levels of the commitments and to identify ways and means of accelerating the implementation of Agenda 21, including the adoption of measures to remedy the slow rate of progress of the international community in implementing Agenda 21;

6. *Notes* the need for assistance to be provided by the international community to the efforts made by countries with economies in transition to achieve the objectives of Agenda 21 and the long-term goals of sustainable development;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the continued active and collaborative involvement of all relevant bodies of the United Nations system in the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with all relevant bodies of the United Nations system and taking into account the outcome of the deliberations in the Commission on Sustainable Development, to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, an analytical report on the measures taken within the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, including the identification of constraints and recommendations on how to address those constraints;

8. *Recognizes* the importance, for the effective implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, of a multifaceted approach at the local, national, regional and global levels, as well as of the continued involvement of major groups, as defined in Agenda 21, and calls for the preparations for the 10-year review to facilitate continued involvement and input from those various levels and from major groups;

9. *Stresses*, in this connection, the importance of high-quality preparations for the forthcoming ten-year review of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and requests the Secretary-General to include the views of Member States in the preliminary report requested by the Commission on Sustainable Development in its decision 7/9,[3] and invites Member States to submit their views to the Secretariat by February 2000;

10. *Renews the request* to the secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development to invite Governments to submit proposals on how to improve the guidelines for the elaboration of national reports and, based on the information received, to prepare a report to be submitted to the Commission as part of the preparations for the comprehensive review of the implementation of Agenda 21;

11. *Invites* as part of the preparations for the ten-year review:

(a) The regional commissions to provide reports, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, on how their activities are contributing to the

implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(b) The relevant functional commissions which are implementing chapters of Agenda 21 to submit reports, through the Economic and Social Council in view of its coordination function, on how their activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(c) The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider how the activities of the Programme are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, and to submit its views to the General Assembly at the earliest opportunity;

(d) The Global Environment Facility, in the course of its regular work, to provide a report on how its activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

(e) The secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, to provide reports on how their activities are contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

12. *Invites also* the Secretary-General, while preparing the report requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 53/188, to take into account the preliminary discussions held by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session and by the Economic and Social Council, and to include in this report proposals for the analytical reports to be prepared for the review process.

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Agenda item 100 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.22

Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[1] adopted at its nineteenth special session, in particular part IV thereof, entitled "International institutional arrangements",

Recalling also its resolutions 53/186 of 15 December 1998, entitled "International institutional arrangements related to environment and development", and 53/242 of 28 July 1999, entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements",

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on international institutional arrangements related to environment and development,[2]

Noting decision 20/28, entitled "Promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs", adopted on 4 February 1999 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,[3]

Emphasizing that policy decisions under the respective conventions are taken by the conferences of the parties, which are autonomous governing bodies,

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[1] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[2] A/54/468.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/54/25), annex.

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Noting that various conventions related to environment and sustainable development are at different stages of implementation, and recognizing the role of the General Assembly in fostering progress in the implementation of environmental and environment-related conventions and of commitments contained therein,

Taking note with appreciation of the relevant ongoing work on the implementation of environmental and environment-related conventions at the national, bilateral, regional and international levels,

Reaffirming the need, as stipulated in part IV of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for greater coherence in various intergovernmental organizations and processes through better policy coordination at the intergovernmental level, as well as for continued and more concerted efforts to enhance collaboration among the secretariats of relevant decision-making bodies,

Emphasizing the need for environmental conventions to continue to pursue sustainable development objectives that are consistent with their provisions and to be fully responsive to Agenda 21,[4]

1. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to and the permanent secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, further to examine appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen their complementarities and to improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages among the three conventions;

2. *Stresses* the need for the integrated consideration of linkages, both among sectors and between sectoral and cross-sectoral aspects of Agenda 21;[4]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of facilitating and supporting the enhancement of linkages and coordination within and among environmental and environment-related conventions, including by the United Nations Environment Programme, with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention concerned and, in this regard, supports the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the establishment of an environmental management group for the purpose of enhancing inter-agency coordination in the areas of environment and human settlements, as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 53/242;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of all the progress made in the implementation of its resolution 53/186;

5. *Encourages* the secretariats of the various environmental and environment-related conventions and international organizations, with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels by:

(a) Identifying opportunities for complementarity of activities undertaken to facilitate implementation of commitments made by the parties to the various conventions;

[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

(b) Encouraging the carrying out of further scientific analyses by relevant international organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the secretariats of the conventions, their subsidiary bodies, the United Nations Secretariat and relevant international scientific bodies, to identify possible activities with potential multiple benefits and to bring them to the attention of the conferences of the parties;

(c) Promoting more effective and coherent support from international organizations and financial institutions and mechanisms for national action aimed at the implementation of the conventions, in particular, in the area of capacity-building;

(d) Addressing practical issues, such as more effective exchange of information, enhanced awareness-raising and streamlining of national reporting;

(e) Supporting, upon request, efforts being made at the national level towards adopting an integrated and holistic approach to the implementation of environmental and environment-related conventions;

(f) Bringing relevant issues to the attention of the General Assembly and relevant intergovernmental bodies for the consideration of Member States and the formulation of agreed policy recommendations with a view to promoting a more holistic approach;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the executive secretaries of the conventions, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session for further consideration.

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Agenda item 100 (f)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations

Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[1] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, and the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados[2] and Programme of Action[3] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 1994, as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Declaration and the review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[4]

Recalling also the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Taking into account all other relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly,

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] See A/S-22/9 and A/S-22/2/Add.1; to be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-22/__), annex.

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Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[5] and emphasizing the fundamental character of the Convention,

Taking note of the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region of 1983, which contains the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States which are ecologically fragile and economically vulnerable and also affected by, *inter alia*, their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, social problems, high levels of poverty and the challenges and opportunities of globalization,

Considering also that the Caribbean Sea area, nearly all of which is separated from the open ocean by either continental or insular land masses, is characterized by a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems, such as the second largest coral reef system in the world, the heavy reliance of most States, countries and territories on their coastal areas and the marine environment in general to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals, the number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national sovereignty and jurisdiction, which present a challenge to the effective management of resources, the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea area for maritime transportation and, notwithstanding the increase in the number of regulatory measures, the threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and from the release of hazardous and noxious substances, in violation of relevant international rules and standards,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change and variability, associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño Southern Oscillation Phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Mindful of the strong interaction and competition among socio-economic activities in the countries of the region for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts made by the Caribbean countries to address, in a more holistic manner, the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea and in so doing to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea in the context of sustainable development,

Noting the efforts of Caribbean countries, within the framework of the Association of Caribbean States, to develop further and seek recognition of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as an area of special importance in the context of sustainable development,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea area to present and future generations and its importance to the heritage, continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, *inter alia*, by land-based sources in the Caribbean Sea area,

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[5] *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea*, vol. XVII (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3), document A/CONF.62/122.

1. *Recognizes* the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

2. *Encourages* the further development of the integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, which will include, *inter alia*, environmental, economic, social, legal and institutional elements and will take into account the experience gained, as well as the provisions of Agenda 21,[6] the Programme of Action adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[7] the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in conformity with relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

3. *Calls upon* the Caribbean countries to develop further an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

4. *Also calls upon* the international community and the United Nations system, in particular the relevant agencies, actively to support efforts to develop further and implement the above-mentioned approach;

5. *Further calls upon* Member States to give priority to improving their emergency response capabilities and to increasing their participation in existing mechanisms so as to allow for a timely, effective and coordinated response to natural disasters and for the containment of environmental damage in the Caribbean Sea area in the event of an accident or incident relating to maritime transport;

6. *Invites* all parties concerned to take action, as appropriate, to address land-based sources of marine pollution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, under the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

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[6] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[7] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.